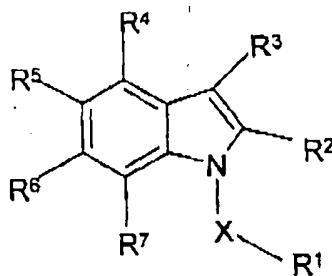


In the claims:

1. (currently amended) A compound of formula (I)

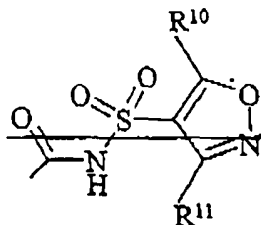


(I)

X is CH₂ or SO₂

R¹ is an optionally substituted aryl or heteroaryl ring;

R² is carboxy, cyano, -C(O)CH₂OH, -CONHR⁸, -SO₂NHR⁹, tetrazol-5-yl, or SO₃H, or a group of formula (VI)



(VI)

where R⁸ is selected from hydrogen, alkyl, aryl, cyano, hydroxy, -SO₂R¹² where R¹² is alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, or haloalkyl, or R⁸ is a group -(CHR¹³)_r-COOH where r is an integer of 1-3 and each R¹³ group is independently selected from hydrogen or alkyl; R⁹ is hydrogen, alkyl, optionally substituted aryl such as optionally substituted phenyl or optionally substituted heteroaryl such as 5 or 6 membered heteroaryl groups, or a group COR¹⁴ where R¹⁴ is alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl or haloalkyl; R¹⁰ and R¹¹ are independently selected from hydrogen or alkyl, particularly C₁₋₄-alkyl;

R³ is hydrogen, a functional group, optionally substituted alkyl, optionally substituted alkenyl, optionally substituted alkynyl, optionally substituted aryl, optionally substituted heteroaryl,

optionally substituted alkoxy, optionally substituted aralkyl, optionally substituted aralkyloxy; or optionally substituted cycloalkyl;

R^4 is a group $NHCOR^{15}$; or $NHSO_2R^{15}$ or $OCONR^{16}R^{17}$ where R^{15} is optionally substituted alkyl, optionally substituted aryl or optionally substituted heteroaryl and R^{16} and R^{17} are independently selected from hydrogen, optionally substituted alkyl, optionally substituted aryl and optionally substituted heteroaryl, with the proviso that at least one of R^{16} or R^{17} is other than hydrogen, or R^{16} and R^{17} together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form an optionally substituted heterocyclic ring which optionally contains further heteroatoms; and R^5 , R^6 and R^7 are independently selected from hydrogen, a functional group or an optionally substituted hydrocarbyl group groups or optionally substituted heterocyclic groups; and further provided that when R^4 is a group $NHCOR^{15}$, R^{15} is substituted alkyl, optionally substituted aryl or optionally substituted heteroaryl.

2. (currently amended) A compound according to claim 1 wherein a group R^{15} , R^{16} and R^{17} as they appear as it appears in the definition of R^4 , is substituted by at least one functional group, or an aryl or heterocyclyl group groups, either of which may themselves be substituted by one or more functional groups or further aryl or heterocyclyl groups.

3. (currently amended) A compound according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 wherein R^4 is a group $NHCOR^{15}$ or $NHSO_2R^{15}$ and R^{15} is a substituted alkyl group or an optionally substituted heterocyclyl substituted heterocyclyl or optionally substituted phenyl group.

4. (currently amended) A compound according to claim 3 wherein R^{15} is alkyl substituted by a group of formula $NR^{19}R^{20}$ where R^{19} and R^{20} are independently selected from hydrogen or optionally substituted hydrocarbyl, or R^{19} and R^{20} together form an optionally substituted ring which optionally contains further heteroatoms such as $S(O)_m$, oxygen and nitrogen, n is an integer of 1 or 2, and m is 1 or 2.

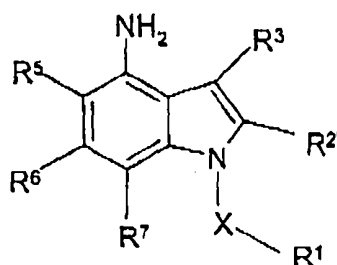
5. (currently amended) A compound according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 where R^2 is carboxy.

6. (currently amended) A compound according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 wherein R^1 is 3,4-dichlorophenyl, 3-fluoro-4-chlorophenyl, 3-chloro-4-fluorophenyl or 2,3-dichloropyrid-5-yl.

7. (currently amended) A compound according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 where X is CH_2 .

8. (currently amended) A process for preparing a compound according to claim 1 which process comprises ~~either~~

~~(a) where R^4 is $\text{NHCO}R^{15}$ or NHSO_2R^{15} ; reacting a compound of formula (VII)~~



(VII)

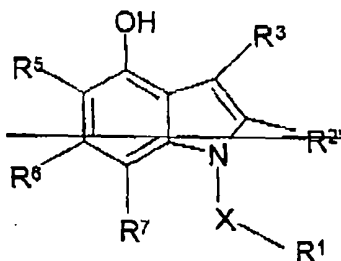
where X, R^1 , R^3 , R^5 , R^6 and R^7 are as defined in claim 1, and $R^{2'}$ is a group R^2 as defined in relation to formula (I) or a protected form thereof, with a compound of formula (VIII)



(VIII)

where Z is a leaving group and R^{22} is a group $\text{COR}^{15'}$ or $\text{SO}_2R^{15'}$ where $R^{15'}$ is group R^{15} as defined in relation to formula (I) or a precursor thereof;

~~or (b) where R^4 is a group $\text{OCONR}^{16}R^{17}$; reacting a compound of formula (VIIA)~~



(VIIA)

where ~~X, R²¹, R¹, R³, R⁵, R⁶ and R⁷ are as defined claim 1 and R³ is a group R² as defined in claim 1 or a protected form thereof, with a compound of formula (VIIIA)~~



(VIIIA)

~~where Z, R¹⁶ and R¹⁷ are as defined above;~~

~~and thereafter if desired or necessary:~~

~~(i) converting a precursor group R^{15'} to a group R¹⁵ and/or converting a group R¹⁵ to a different such group; and~~

~~(ii) deprotecting a group R^{2'} to a group R².~~

9. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1 in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

10. (currently amended) A method for antagonizing an MCP-1 (Monocyte Chemoattractant Protein-1) or RANTES (Regulated upon Activation, Normal T-cell Expressed and Secreted) mediated effect in a warm blooded animal in need of such treatment comprising administering to said animal an effective amount of a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 7 claim 1, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, or an in vivo hydrolysable ester thereof, for use in the preparation of a medicament for use in the treatment of disease mediated by monocyte chemoattractant protein 1 or RANTES (Regulated upon Activation, Normal T-cell Expressed and Secreted), such as inflammatory disease.

11. (new) A method for treating inflammation in a warm blooded animal in need of such treatment comprising administering to said animal an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, or an in vivo hydrolysable ester thereof.